

Passing the Missile Defense Act which initiates a policy to deploy a national missile defense system, and prohibits inaccurate interpretation of the ABM Treaty which would serve to limit theater missile defense systems;

Correcting the erosion in nuclear weapons capabilities by reasserting that the primary responsibility of the Department of Energy is to strengthen the strategic stockpile;

Directing improvements and modifications in nuclear weapons production facilities and supporting important initiatives at the nuclear weapons laboratories;

Adequately funding current readiness while reducing funding for nondefense programs;

Significantly improving quality of life programs for our troops and their families, including funds for housing, facilities, and real property maintenance;

Approving a 2.4-percent pay raise for military members and a 5.2-percent increase in basic allowance for quarters, and achieving COLA equity for retirees;

Providing funding for DOD and DOE environmental programs;

Establishing a dental insurance program for the selected reserves and an income protection insurance program for self-employed reservists who are mobilized;

Providing funding for essential equipment for the Active, Guard, and Reserve components.

Once again I thank Senator NUNN, Senator DOLE, the members of the committee, and the staff. I thank the Chair, and yield the floor.

EXHIBIT 1 MINORITY

Dick Combs, Chris Cowart, Rick DeBobes, John Douglass, Andy Effron, Jan Gordon, Creighton Greene, P.T. Henry, Bill Hoehn, Jennifer Lambert, Mike McCord, Frank Norton, Arnold Punaro, Julie Rief

MAJORITY

Charlie Abell, Alec Bierbauer, Les Brownlee, Dick Caswell, Monica Chavez, Chris Cimko, Greg D'Alessio, Don Deline, Marie Dickinson, Jon Etherton, Pamela Farrell, Melinda Koutsoumpas, Larry Lanzillotta, George Lauffer, Shelley Lauffer, Steve Madey, John Miller, Ann Mittermeyer, Joe Pallone, Cindy Pearson, Connie Rader, Sharen Reaves, Dick Reynard, Jason Rossbach, Steve Saulnier, Cord Sterling, David Stone, Eric Thoenmes, Roslyne Turner, Deasy Wagner, Jennifer Wallace

Mr. NUNN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from South Carolina for his summation of this bill. As he said, there are many important features in this bill. I supported the bill in the final form that it passed. I think there have been dramatic improvements made on the floor.

The Corps SAM Program has been restored, which is an important part of our overall theater missile defense capability. The national missile defense language has been, I think, made much

more acceptable and compatible with America's security interests. That has been done on an amendment we passed this morning. An important program on the junior ROTC that had been cut has now been restored. The civil-military language has been modified and, in my opinion, strengthened, and some of the problems there have been corrected. The humanitarian and disaster assistance, which had been cut, has been partially restored, which is important. And there have been very significant changes made on the floor in the Department of Energy section.

We need to ensure that the conference maintains the Senate approach in these areas. We also have other challenges in the conference. I think too much has been cut out of defense research, even in our bill. The TRP Program has been cut in ways that I think need to be reexamined in conference, in close consultation with Secretary of Defense Perry, who probably knows more about this program than any person in America and has spent an enormous amount of his Secretary of Defense time and energy in making sure that this program is successfully implemented.

Also, I think there is too much micromanagement of the ballistic missile defense accounts in our bill and in the House bill, and that needs to be addressed in conference.

We have some serious challenges on the House bill that are going to be difficult to work out when we get to conference, including language on abortion, including language on HIV, including command and control of U.S. forces participating in multilateral organizations, including peacekeeping and contingency operations, as well as some of their language—and perhaps, from their point of view, some of our language—on missile defense and other programs.

My final assessment is that we have a bill here that has been improved on the floor, that we have an opportunity to work on and make further improvements on in conference, working in good faith with the House. We have a lot of high hurdles to clear if we are going to have this bill become law this year, based not on what I have been told formally but on what I have heard informally from the White House and from the Department of Defense. But I have seen a lot of high hurdles in the past and I have seen those high hurdles overcome by people working in good faith for the national security interests of our country. So it is my hope that, with a cooperative spirit and a constructive approach, we will be able to work with our House conferees and with the administration to see that the Defense authorization bill becomes law this year. That remains a serious challenge, but I think it is one that we must all strive to meet.

I thank the Senator from South Carolina and all of his staff and all of the staff on the Democratic side and all the members of the committee for a

very, I think, commendable effort. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, let me first of all congratulate the managers. This is a major piece of legislation that is always very difficult to bring to a conclusion. But it has been done because of the leadership of the distinguished Senator from South Carolina, Senator THURMOND, and the cooperation of the distinguished Senator from Georgia, Senator NUNN. They have worked together to bring it together, as have other Senators, particularly Senators WARNER and COHEN on this side, who have just resolved a very important issue by a vote of 85 to 13. In my view, that compromise should have been passed by that lopsided margin. There is still a conference. They can still make other changes.

But I congratulate all the members of the committee and members of their staffs for what I think is an excellent bill. We just heard the Senator from Georgia address some of the concerns that were resolved. The Senator from South Carolina addressed some of the concerns earlier. Now it goes to conference. I think, again, it indicates we are making progress in the Senate. Plus the appropriations bill will be ready for passage as soon as the House acts on it. So as far as the defense area is concerned, I think we are in good shape on the Senate side.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I have been discussing, through staff, with the Democratic leader, and I now ask unanimous consent that, after all the discussions on the DOD bill, there be a period for morning business not to extend beyond the hour of, I think we will make it 11 o'clock, now, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. I further ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess between the hours of 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. today in order for the Democratic Members to conduct their weekly caucus luncheon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent the Senate resume the welfare bill following the morning business period just provided for.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. Again, let me indicate to my colleagues, we are trying to accommodate many who wish to go to the baseball game tonight, a very important baseball game in Baltimore. If we can work out some agreement where we can have a vote fairly early tomorrow morning on the Democratic welfare proposal—because it is my hope to